

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for remote assistance in local medical diagnostic ultrasound imaging, the method comprising:
 - (a) acquiring ultrasound image data at a first local location, the ultrasound image data being responsive to at least one of detection in an ultrasound mode, and scan-conversion or a combination thereof;
 - (b) transmitting the ultrasound image data from the first local location to a remote location, the remote location in a different facility than the first local location; and
 - (c) receiving from the remote location processed data responsive to the ultrasound image data at the first local location, a second local location different than the first local location, the remote location, or combinations thereof.
2. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein (c) comprises receiving diagnosis recommendations as the processed data.
3. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein (c) comprises receiving a filtered version of the ultrasound image data as the processed data.
4. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein (c) comprises receiving quantification data as the processed data.
5. (original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
 - (d) automatically processing the ultrasound image data with a processor at the remote location, the result of (d) being the processed data.
6. (original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
 - (d) entering data from a user input at the remote location, the data being the processed data.

7. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein (a) comprises acquiring a sequence of Doppler ultrasound images and wherein (b) comprises transmitting the sequence of Doppler ultrasound images.

8. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein (a) comprises acquiring an image selected from the group of: a second harmonic ultrasound image, a continuous wave image, a pulsed wave image, a Doppler image, a Doppler and B-mode image, a B-mode image, and an M-mode image, wherein (b) comprises transmitting the image.

9. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein (a) comprises acquiring the ultrasound image data during an imaging session, wherein (b) comprises transmitting the ultrasound image data as (a) is performed, and wherein (c) comprises receiving the processed data during the imaging session.

10. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein (c) comprises receiving from the remote location the processed data responsive to the ultrasound image data at the first local location.

11. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein (a) comprises acquiring ultrasound image data representing a three-dimensional volume.

12. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

(d) encrypting the acquired ultrasound data prior to (b), or the processed data prior to (c).

13-27. (cancelled)